

# Struggle To Control The Trib

DEC 12 1976

*Joe W. Knowland Blog*

After a week of legal maneuvering, the future ownership of The Oakland Tribune remains unclear.

In sum, a majority of shareholders of The Tribune Publishing Co., which operates the 102-year-old newspaper, and The Tribune Building Co., which owns the plant which houses The Tribune, want to sell.

A minority of the shareholders, including the presidents of both companies, one of whom is the editor and publisher of the daily paper, filed suit. They asked and won in Alameda County Superior Court a temporary order restraining any sale until the identity and qualifications of any buyer and any proposed management policy changes are disclosed to the court and to the minority shareholders.

Since the directors of both the publishing company and the building company have authorized the respective board presidents to seek potential "bona fide acquirers" for the properties and assets of the two companies.

Both sides hold temporary restraining orders governing the corporate struggle. Hearings on the orders are scheduled Dec 21.

Beside the legal actions taken by both groups, there was another development on Friday. The state Corporations Commissioner ordered Emerson Wiser of Hayward to "desist and refrain" from acting as broker-dealer because he is not licensed as a broker-dealer.

In documents filed Monday, the minority group alleged that the majority have agreed secretly to sell their shares in the two firms and have entered into a contract with Mr. Wiser to find a buyer.

State securities law requires any person effecting business transactions to have a broker-dealer license. Under the law

Mr. Wiser, whose address in the notice to desist and refrain was given as 26660 Patrick Ave., Hayward, may request a hearing which must be held within 15 days.

(That address is the site of the Sequoia Manor Convalescent Home. The telephone directory also shows it as the location of Damia & Sons Inc., a firm incorporated to construct residential and commercial buildings.)

The minority group is being represented by the law firm of Crosby, Heafey, Roach & May. Attorneys for the majority group are from the firm of Burden, Reis, Aiken & Krinsky.

The newspaper has been in the same family hands since 1915.

On the side initiating the secret sale plan are Joseph R. (Jay) Knowland III, Eleanor Lion, Edgar H. Lion Jr., Penelope K. Hammerlee, Patricia K. Robb and Josephine Church.

All are descendants of the late Joseph R. Knowland who acquired The Oakland Tribune more than 60 years ago.

Jay Knowland is the son of the late Joseph R. (Russ) Knowland Jr., one of the children of the founder of The Tribune Publishing Co. Mrs. Robb and Mrs. Hammerlee are sisters of Jay Knowland.

Eleanor Lion is the daughter of the publishing company founder. Edgar H. Lion Jr. is her son. Josephine Church is her daughter.

Among them those shareholders hold the majority stock in both The Tribune Publishing Co. and The Tribune Building Co.

On the other side are Emelyn K. Jewett, president of The Tribune Publishing Co.; Joseph W. Knowland, president of The Tribune Building Co. and Editor and Publisher of the newspaper; Helen H. Whyte, Estelle K. Johnson, Paul G. Manolis, Clarice E.

# Knowland Family Ties

1. **Joseph R. Knowland** (deceased) acquired ownership of Tribune in 1915, Editor and Publisher of Oakland Tribune, director and president of Tribune Publishing Co.

1-a. **Clarice E. (Mrs. Guy) Gilchrist** (widow of Joseph R. Knowland), director, Tribune Publishing Co., director, Tribune Building Co.

2. **Joseph R. (Russ) Knowland Jr.** (deceased), director, Tribune Publishing Co. and Tribune Building Co., assistant publisher and general manager of Oakland Tribune.

3. **Eleanor (Mrs. Edgar H.) Lion.**

4. **Sen. William F. Knowland** (deceased), director and president of Tribune Publishing Co. and Tribune Building Co., Editor and Publisher of Oakland Tribune.

4-a. **Helen (Mrs. Edgar H.) Whyte** (widow of William F. Knowland).

5. **Joseph R. (Jay) Knowland III**, director, Tribune Publishing Co. and Tribune Building Co.

6. **Penelope K. Robb.**

7. **Patricia K. Hammerlee.**

8. **Edgar H. (Bud) Lion Jr.**, director, Tribune Publishing Co., director and vice president, Tribune Building Co.

9. **Josephine (Mrs. George) Church**, director, Tribune Publishing Co.

*Patricia*

*Penelope*

Gilchrist, P. Parke Wilson and Harold W. Jewett Jr.

Emelyn Jewett and Joseph W. Knowland are children of the late William F. Knowland, one of the children of the founder of the company. Estelle (Knowland) Johnson is their sister. The three of them are cousins of Jay Knowland.

Helen Whyte is the widow of Senator William F. Knowland and the mother of Emelyn Jewett, Joseph W. Knowland and Estelle Johnson.

Clarice E. Gilchrist is the widow of the first Joseph R. Knowland.

Paul G. Manolis is a shareholder who is a director of both companies but is not related to the Knowland family.

P. Parke Wilson and Harold W. Jewett Jr. are trustees of estates involving shares. Mr. Jewett is the legal counsel for the newspaper and is the husband of Emelyn Jewett.

Among the minority group, Mrs. Jewett, Mrs. Whyte,

Mrs. Johnson, Joseph W. Knowland, Mrs. Gilchrist, Mr. Manolis and Mr. Wilson are the owners of 28,349 shares of The Tribune Publishing Co. stock.

Jay Knowland, Mrs. Lion, Mr. Lion Jr., Mrs. Church, Mrs. Robb and Mrs. Hammerlee, on the majority side, own 40,475 shares of publishing company stock. *40,474*

In the building company, the majority group controls 63 per cent of the outstanding shares of the firm.

The building company owns 33,962 shares in the publishing company. The controlling group has equitable ownership of 21,701 shares of that bloc of stock but through majority voting rights in the building company control the entire 33,962 shares of publishing company stock held by the building company.

The corporate battle first broke into the open last Monday when the minority bloc won a temporary restraining order halting the proposed secret sale.

The majority bloc in turn



# The Stockholders

Stockholder (Plaintiffs)	Tribune Publishing Co. (Shares)	Tribune Building Co. (Shares)
Emlyn K. Jewett	421	2
Joseph W. Knowland	30	1
Estelle K. Johnson	481	7
Helen H. Whyte	3,500	167
Clarence Gilchrist	10,911	126
Paul G. Manolis	256	1
P. Prke Wilson, Trustee	12,750	-
H. W. Jewett Jr., Trustee	-	33
	<hr/> 28,349	<hr/> 337
(Defendants)		
Eleanor K. Lion	17,958	276
Edgar H. Lion Jr.	584	7
Josephine L. Church	584	7
J. F. (Jay) Knowland III	14,645	164
Patricia K. Hammerlee	4,430	188
Perlope K. Robb	2,243	132
Perlope K. Robb, Trustee	30	-
	<hr/> 40,474	<hr/> 774
(Others)		
Tribune Building Co.	33,962	-
United California Bank, Pledgee	10,500	100
Tribune Publishing Co., Pledgee	1,000	-
Emlyn K. Jewett and Bank of America, co-trustees of E.S.K. Trust	27,890	-
	<hr/> 142,175	<hr/> 1,211
<b>Total Shares Outstanding</b>		

order making the proposed secret sale.

The majority bloc in turn got a temporary restraining order preventing the distribution of shares in the publishing company held by the building company.

Such an action, proposed in the form of a stock dividend, according to court documents, would have altered the balance of power among the shareholders.

Attorney Edwin Heafey Jr. argued, in documents filed on behalf of the minority shareholders in the initial complaint, that there is good reason to believe stock of the two companies may be sold to a "corporate raider concerned primarily with milking the substantial assets owned by the two companies and not in continuing the stable management pattern developed in the companies over the years."

Documents filed on behalf of Jay Knowland allege that a qualified buyer has expressed an interest in purchasing all the publishing company stock for \$19 million.

There has been no announcement about who the buyer might be.

It was after the issue became public that directors of both the publishing company and the building company authorized the respective board presidents, Mrs. Jewett and Joseph W. Knowland, to seek potential "bona fide acquirers."

In addition, the building company board of directors has authorized its president to sell the publishing company shares it owns to the publishing company. And the publishing company board of directors has authorized its president to buy those shares.

The transaction has not taken place yet.



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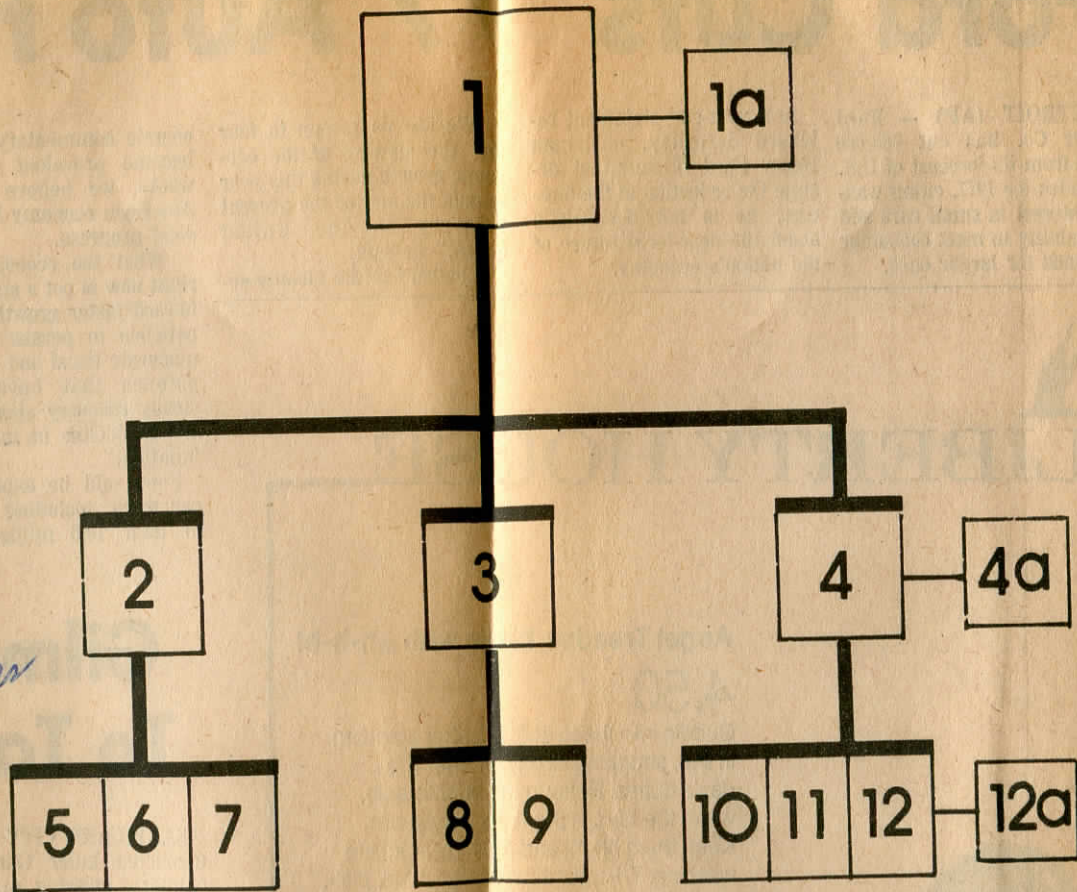
9. **Josephine (Mrs. George) Church**, director, Tribune Publishing Co.

10. **Joseph W. Knowland**, director and vice president, Tribune Publishing Co., director and president, Tribune Building Co., Editor and Publisher Oakland Tribune.

11. **Estelle (Mrs. Richard E.) Johnson.**

12. **Emelyn K. (Mrs. Harold W. Jr.) Jewett**, director and president, Tribune Publishing Co.

12-a. **Harold W. Jewett Jr.**, general counsel, Tribune Publishing Co. and Tribune Building Co.



# hey?

FEB 16 1976

Joseph W. Knowland, Editor and Publisher of The Tribune, joined the family-owned newspaper as soon as he graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1953 with a degree in communications and public policy.

He worked his way up through all departments to assistant city editor, assistant publisher and general manager.

As publisher, he has spearheaded major changes in the style, content and appearance of The Tribune, and gained national attention with his editorial rejecting the so-called "Symbionese Liberation Army's" demands that the news media print its diatribes in full. The California Press Association honored him as Publisher of the Year in 1975.

Joe is a former trustee of two Bay Area colleges and active in community organizations. He was cochairman with his wife, Dee, of the fund-raising campaign to restore the Paramount Theatre of the Arts.



October 27, 1972

Biographical Sketch

JOSEPH W. KNOWLAND

Address: Piedmont, California

Born: July 26, 1930, at Oakland, California

Wife: Dolores B. (Dee) Knowland

Children: Deanne Knowland - born July 31, 1953 (University of Nevada)  
William F. Knowland, II - born May 10, 1956 (Piedmont High School)  
Rebecca Knowland - born March 29, 1963 (Havens Grammar School)

Parents: William F. Knowland and Helen Herrick Knowland (former U. S. Senator, now Editor/Publisher of Oakland Tribune)

Grandparents: The late Mrs. Estelle Herrick (teacher) and the late Joseph R. Knowland, Sr. (publisher)

Sisters: Mrs. Harold (Emelyn) Jewett, Jr.  
Mrs. Robert (Estelle) McKee Johnson

Education: Graduated June 19, 1953, University of California at Berkeley, in two majors - - speech and communications/public policy - -

Employment Background: Oakland Tribune - June, 1953  
(Worked way up through all departments to Assistant City Editor; Assistant Editor-in-Chief; Assistant Publisher.)

Current Business Affiliations: General Manager of Oakland Tribune  
Vice President and Director of The Tribune Publishing Co.  
Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer and Director of Tribune Building Company  
Vice President and Director of Franklin Investment Company

Organizations Past: Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity  
E Clampus Vitus  
President of Piedmont Jr. Chamber of Commerce  
President of First Methodist Men's Club  
Board of Directors of Oakland Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Trustees Mills College (1968-69)  
Board of Trustees California College of Arts & Crafts (1968-69)  
Executive Committee University of California/State Bar of California  
"Law in a Free Society" (1970-71)  
State Committee - Radio Free Europe (1971)

Organizations Present: Bohemian Club, San Francisco  
Oakland Chamber of Commerce  
East Bay Botanical & Zoological Society  
University Alumni Association, UC, Berkeley  
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Hellman-Park Dunsmuir House, Inc.  
Steering Committee, Paramount Theatre of the Arts  
Easter Seal Society, Alameda County, Board of Directors  
Oakland Museum Association, Board of Directors  
Marquis Biographical Library Society, Advisory Member  
Children's Hospital, East Bay, Board of Directors

Clubs

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University Alumni Association, UC, Berkeley  
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January 20, 1975

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Oakland Symphony Orchestra Association, Board of Directors  
San Jose Mission Restoration Committee, Honorary Member  
California Press Association  
Commonwealth Club of California, Public Relations Committee  
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Commonwealth Club of California, Public Relations Committee  
New Oakland Committee  
Rainbow Sign, Event Executive Committee

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